

REMARKS

This is a response to the Office Action mailed on June 29, 2006, in this application. As a preliminary matter, applicants wish to again thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 1-11 and 13-19. Claims 1-19 are currently pending. Individual issues raised in the Office Action are addressed below.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hawk (U.S. Patent No. 6,550,281). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 12 recites:

A method for controlling a spin imparted on an optical fiber comprising the steps of:

imparting circumferential spin on a high-temperature optical fiber drawn from a preform;

obtaining dispersion pattern data peculiar to the spun optical fiber from scattered light naturally generated from the spin imparted on the optical fiber; and

controlling rate and period of the spin imparted on the optical fiber *on the basis of the obtained dispersion pattern data.*

(Emphasis added.)

Hawk does not disclose or even suggest what claim 12 claims, namely “obtaining dispersion pattern data peculiar to the spun optical fiber from scattered light naturally generated from the spin imparted on the optical fiber” and controlling rate and period of the spin imparted on the optical fiber “on the basis of the obtained dispersion pattern.” Rather, Hawk discloses only in general terms that “[a] control mechanism is provided to modulate the angular alignment of the rollers 102 and 104 as needed to impart a particular spin,” without any teaching or disclosure of obtaining dispersion pattern data and controlling the spin on the basis of that obtained dispersion data. Hawk, col. 3, lines 27-29.

Because Hawk fails to teach or disclose all the limitations of claim 12, it cannot anticipate claim 12. Therefore, the rejection of claim 12 should be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the instant Office Action, the Examiner again states that claims 1-11 and 13-19 are allowed. The applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for this finding and further states that, in view of the above, claim 12 should be allowed as well.

Conclusion

In view of the above, applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. A favorable disposition to that effect is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed to be due for this submission. In the event a fee is required please charge such a fee to Jones Day Deposit Account No. 50-3013.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning this submission, she is invited to call the undersigned at the phone number listed below.

Date: September 18, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



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